



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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To: Superintendents, Charter School Heads and Curriculum Leaders

From: Willa Spicer

Date: October 19, 2010

Those of us who work in the Department understand that everyone in education in New Jersey has been asked to do more with fewer resources. We believe, therefore, that this is the time to rethink the process of curriculum development. Instead of each district working alone, we trust that each LEA can get better curriculum at less cost if the curriculum is created collaboratively.

New Jersey already has a variety of district consortia producing new curriculum in science, social studies, the arts and career and technical education. The quality of the work appears to be outstanding and district developers, working with state content specialists, are finding collaboration worthwhile. During the next two months, to facilitate these emerging agreements, all the content area workshops sponsored by the DOE will include an invitation for districts to join together to accomplish the curriculum work. The department will offer support for any emerging consortium of districts. .

To help you consider the best way to update your curriculum, the list of dates for full implementation of each content area is attached to this memo. In addition, we are providing the link to the staff development workshops available between now and the end of December.

www.state.nj.us/education/events

I hope that you will reflect on the opportunity to develop working relationships with other districts facing the same task as yours and join your colleagues at the curriculum workshops already scheduled. All districts may still sign up for these events by following the directions on the registration forms. If it looks as if a large number of districts wish to establish collaborative agreements, we will schedule more workshops for the beginning of the year.

Revised Core Curriculum Content Standards (K-12)	Adoption of Revised Standards	Implementation of Revised Curricula
• Common Core English language arts	June 16, 2010	K- 12 September 2012
• Common Core Mathematics	June 16, 2010	K-2 3-5, high school 6-8 September 2011 September 2012 September 2013
• Science	June 17, 2009	September 1, 2011
• Visual and performing arts • Comprehensive health and physical education • Technology • 21st century life and careers • World languages	June 17, 2009	September 1, 2012
• Social studies	September 9, 2009	September 1, 2012